

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-05 (ISO) W

----- 078395

R 261355Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7292

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TEL AVIV 4074

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF US IS EG

SUBJ: ISRAELI PRESS RE LEAKS OF ISRAELI

NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS

SUMMARY: STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT COMPLAINING ABOUT PRESS LEAKS AND MFA REACTION TO IT DOMINATE HEADLINES. PRESS REPORTS CONTENTS OF DEPARTMENT STATEMENT AND REGARDS IT AS REPRIMAND TO ISRAEL. IT SPECUALATES ON POSSIBLE REASON FOR " UNPRECEDENTED STATEMENT" AND INTERPRETS IT AS " BEGINNING OF NEW AMERICAN PRESSURES ON ISRAEL" AND CREATION OF " NEW PERIOD OF TENSION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND US..." END SUMMARY.

1. DAVAR (BARNEA) REPORTS THAT " NEW CRISIS DEVELOPED YESTERDAY IN RELATIONS BETWEEN GOI AND USG OVER THE LEAKING OF SECRET DETAILS CONCERNING INTERIM SETTLEMENT..." BARNEA SPECULATES THAT THE AMERICAN ANGER MAY BE RELATED TO (AMERICAN) DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE EGYPTIAN REACTION TO ISRAELI UNCLASSIFIED

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PROPOSALS. " THE STAEMENT 'REPRIMANDS' ISRAEL IN A MANNER UNUSUAL IN DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS BETWEEN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES AND IT SEEMS TO REFLECT REAL ANGER IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND FEAR THAT CHANCES

TO REACH AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT WILL BE LOST..."
BARNEA SAID THAT " IT SEEMS THAT THE ATTEMPTS DURING
MR. RABIN'S VISIT TO IMPRVE THE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE SUFFERED A SEVERE BLOW..."

2. JERUSALEM POST (LANDAU) COMMENTS ON MFA
OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND STRESSES THAT " THE PHRASE
'WHATEVER THE SOURCE OF SUCH LEAKS' (WHICH APPEARED
IN MFA STATEMENT) SEEMED TO BE OBLIQUE REFERENCE
TO THE FACT THAT WASHINGTON ITSELF ON OCCASION
LEAKED MATERIAL TO NEWSMEN, SOMETIMES WITH THE
APPARENT AIM OF PRESSURING ISRAEL..." LANDAU
ADDS THAT THE FORD STATEMENT " PERTURBED
GOVERNMENT CIKLES". HE QUOTES INDEPENDENT
OBSERVERS AS " EXPRESSING SURPRISE AT THE SEVERITY
OF THE STATEMENT. THE 'TIMES' STORY, THEY
POINTED OUT, ADDED LITTLE NEW SUBSTANCE TO WHAT
HAD ALREADY BEEN EXTENSIVELY REPORTED OF ISRAEL'S
LATEST SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL. BITTERNESS AT PRESS LEAKS HAS NOT
BEEN ALL ONE-SIDED. RABIN AND OTHER ISRAELI OFFICIALS
HAVE ON OCCASION EXPRESSED PRIVAT ECONCERN AT THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S METHODS OF FEEDING MATERIAL TO
SELECTED NEWSMEN IN ORDER TO APPLY SUBTLE PRESSURE
ON ISRAEL BEFORE OR DURING NEGOTIATIONS."

3. HAARETZ (MARGALIT) REPORTS THAT " THE AMERICAN
ANGER AT THE PUBLICATION IS PROBABLY DUE TO
AMERICAN VIEW THAT ISRAEL IS PESSIMISTIC
REGARDING CHANCES OF INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH
EGYPT AND FEARS ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH THE
ADMINISTRATION AND THEREFORE JERUSALEM
DECIDED THIS TIME TO MAKE PUBLIC ITS ...FLEXIBILITY
IN ORDER TO DEPRIVE DR. KISSINGER OF THE
FIRST ADVANTAGES OF BRIEFING AMERICAN PRESS
AGAINST HER..." MARGALIT ALSO QUOTES AMERICAN
OFFICIALS AS EXPRESSING ANGER AT ISRAEL, " CLAIMING
THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONDUCT DIPLOMATIC NEGO-
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TIATIONS WITH HER. ELEMENTS WHICH ARE UNSYMPATHETIC
TO ISRAEL CLAIM THAT ...THE LEAKS RAISE DOUBTS
AS TO WHETHER ISRAEL IS SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN
ADVANCING TOWARDS A FINAL SETTLEMENT. THE STATE
DEPARTMENT IS SATISFIEC THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS
PUT HIS WEIGHT BEHIND THE STATEMENT, WHICH
AMOUNTS TO AN EMPHASIZED CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL,
AND HAD NOT LEFT IT TO KISSINGER..."

4. YEDIOT (GUNEY) LISTS POSSIBLE REASONS FOR
AMERICAN ANGER OVER LEAKS AND STRESSES THAT
AMERICAN PRESS HAS LEAKED IN PAST ON ME NEGOTIATIONS-
EMPHASIZING ISRAEL'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FAILURE

OF NEGOTIATIONS. " BUT THEN THE WHITE HOUSE
AND STATE DEPARTMENT DID NOT FEEL IT WAS NECESSARY
TO REACT...WHY? BECAUSE THOSE LEAKS SERVED THEIR
PURPOSES. BUT NOW, WHEN THE LEAKS MAY SERVE THE
PURPOSE OF ISRAEL BY GIVING THE AMERICAN
PUBLIC INFORMATION ON WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON-
THEY PROTEST FIRMLY."

5. YEDIOT (ZIMUKI) REPORTS THAT " VARIOUS EVALUATIONS
HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED IN JERUSALEM REGARDING THE
REASONS WHICH HAD LED THE ADMINISTRATION TO
TAKE SUCH A SHARP STEP. IT IS KNOWN THAT THE
AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SATISFIED WITH THE
LATEST ISRAELI PROPOSALS...KISSINGER MADE IT
CLEAR IN HIS LAST CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR
DINITZ, IT IS ALSO KNOWN THAT THE ISRAELI
PROPOSALS WERE DELAYED FOR SEVERAL DAYS...BEFORE
BEING TRANSMITTED TO EGYPT...THE EGYPTIAN REPLY
MIGHT ALSO BE UNSATISFACTORY...IT IS NOTED IN
JERUSALEM THAT PRESIDENT FORD AND DR. KISSINGER
DID NOT HIDE THEIR DISPLEASURE AT THE INTENSIVE...
ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY OUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON,
PARTICULARLY AMONG CONGRESSMEN,
ACTIVITY WHICH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL AND SURPRISED
THE WHITE HOUSE..."

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7293
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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6. MAARIV (HARIF) REPORTS THAT " PM RABIN IS ANGRY
AT THE LEAKING OF ISRAELI PROPOSALS...AND THINKS
THAT IT MAY MAKE THE NEGOTIATIONS MORE DIFFICULT

AND PERHAPS EVEN HARM THE TALKS. OFFICIAL CIRCLES
IN JERUSALEM HAVE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT
ALTHOUGH THE REPORT CAME FROM NY TIME REPORTER
IN JERUSALEM- THE LEAK DID NOT ORIGINATE
IN JERUSALEM- THE LEAK DID NOT ORIGINATE
IN ISRAEL, BECAUSE SIMILAR AND ALMOST IDENTICAL
REPORTS...CAME A DAY EARLIER FROM REPORTERS IN
WASHINGTON...POLITICAL OBSERVERS IN JERUSALEM
DEFINE WASHINGTONS REACTION AS 'EMOTIONAL',
BUT ADMIT THAT THE WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT
SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT REPORTS, ACCURATE
OR OTHERWISE, MAKE AMERICAN MEDITATION DIFFICULT
TO THE POINT THAT THERE IS A DANGER THAT THE
TALKS WILL BE BROKEN OFF, SINCE EGYPT IS IN A
PARTICULARLY DELICATE SITUATION BECAUSE OF
CRITICISM BY VARIOUS ARAB ELEMENTS..."

7. MAARIV EDITORIAL ATTACKS DR. KISSINGER FOR THE
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" NOT SO DIPLOMATIC STATEMENT". IT SAYS THAT " IF
DR. KISSINGER WANTS SECRET DIPLOMACY...THEN SUCH
DIPLOMACY MUST APPLY TO HIM ALSO, AND IF HE HAS
ANYTHING TO SAY TO GOI THEN THE SUITABLE
CHANNEL IS NOT THE STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICER...
IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS THAT
DR. KISSINGER WANTS ISRAEL TO LOWER THE TONE AND
RESTRICT ITSELF TO THE BOUNDERIES OF ' SECRET
DIPLOMACY', THEREBY GIVING HIM THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT
TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION. HE WILL
LEAK WHENEVER HE FINDS IT CONVENIENT, EGYPT WILL
LEAK WHEN IT CHOOSES TO DO SO....BUT ISRAEL IS
ORDERED TO REMAIN SILENT. HE PROBABLY
FORGETS WHO CONDUCTED THE MOBILE DIPLOMACY IN
A PLANE FULL OF REPORTERS BRIEFED BY ' A SENIOR
OFFICIAL'" ...
VELITOEES

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